

Highlights of the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2009-2010

The value of a mill has increased from \$26,223 to \$26,746, an increase of 1.99% over last fiscal year.

The employees, department heads and elected officials received a 2% Cola increase in wages plus 1% longevity. Not all employees are eligible for the 1% longevity increase.

Cash Reserves have been set as follows:

General Fund – 20.07%
Road Fund – 20%
Bridge Fund – 33.33%
Weed Fund – 33.33%
Fair Fund – 18.50%
District Court Fund – 20%
Library Fund – 33.33%
Planning Fund – 21.00%
Health & Sanitation Fund – 33.33%
Senior Citizens Fund – 10%
County Agent Fund – 6.30%
Public Safety Fund – 22.06%
Museum Fund – 10%

The county applied for a \$300,000.00 intercap loan last fiscal year. \$49,886.59 was spent on architect fees, electrical, wiring, and furniture for the Commission building. The Treasurer's office remodel cost \$21,795.89. The remainder of the money will be spent closing in the handicap ramp on the Planning/Sanitation/ITC office building, carpeting in the courthouse, desks in the Treasurer's office, chairs in the courtroom, Commission building sidewalk and Justice Court furniture.

Fund 2895 has the following amounts in cash that can be expended:

Account 101000 – Operating Cash - \$68,166.38

These dollars can be expended at the discretion of the governing body.

Account 101041 – Golden Sunlight Post Dist. - \$203,616.36

Account 101081 – Mt. Tunnels Post Dist. - \$1,261,622.67

These dollars can be expended as per 7-6-2225 MCA.

The county will receive \$28,398.80 this fiscal year in state entitlement dollars in fund 2895 which can be used at the governing body's discretion.

Cash account 101080- Montana Tunnels Trust Account – has \$505,040.09 which may be released for distribution by the governing body. Upon release of these dollars the governing body shall allocate at least one-third of the funds proportionally to affected high school districts and elementary school districts in the county. The remainder of the dollars may be used as follows:

- a. pay for outstanding capital project bonds or other expenses incurred prior to the end of mining activity or the reduction in the mining work force described in 7-6-2225(2)(b);

- b. decrease property tax mill levies that are directly caused by the cessation of mining activity;
- c. promote diversification and development of the economic base within the jurisdiction of a local government unit through assistance to existing business for retention and expansion or to assist new business.

The Commission voted in 2007 to study the creation of a North End Water and Sewer District. The Commission voted to expend up to \$65,000 from Hard Rock Trust Fund #2895 on the next phase of the study and possible creation of this district. \$49,792.97 was expended in fiscal year 2007-2008 and fiscal year 2008-2009. The county has budgeted to expend \$15,207.03 this fiscal year. Should the district be created the dollars will be repaid.

The county has agreed to give JLDC a loan for \$655,000.00 out of Hard Rock Mine Fund 2895.

The PILT fund 2900 has \$1,904,739.04 in cash as of the end of June 2009. This budget proposes to expend \$679,321.34 which will leave \$1,225,417.70 in cash on hand to be used for short term loans, emergencies, etc. The Commission has promised PILT to the following departments should their expenditures exceed the budget.

\$20,000 to district court for jury, indigent and psych exams

\$14,000 to the county attorney for trial expenses

\$4,000 to the justice of peace for trial expenses

\$5059 to Mt. City Trail Committee

The county will receive \$167,387 in HB 645 Stimulus dollars this fiscal year. These dollars will be expended on the MDC South Campus Project.

The Commission is in the process of forming several special districts. They may loan approximately \$80,000 from PILT during the process of forming RSID districts. These loans will be repaid upon creation of the RSID district.

The economic development fund 2320 has \$192,239.96 in cash as of the end of June 2009. We anticipate receiving approximately \$149,074 in metalliferous mine revenue and other non-tax revenue this fiscal year. The proposed budget expenditures are \$137,799.57. At the end of fiscal year 2010 we should have cash on hand of \$203,514.

Jefferson County voters passed a 15 mill levy increase in November 2008 to fund public safety. Fund 2300 reflects this increase in property tax revenue.

This document has been prepared by the Clerk and Recorder and may not reflect the concerns and views of any other elected officials or departments.